

Mansfield Commission on Aging Minutes
9:30 AM – Senior Center
Monday, January 11, 2010

PRESENT: T. Quinn (Chair), K. Grunwald (staff), M. Gerling (staff), S. Gordon, Emile Poirier, J. Adamcik, C. Phillips, C. Pellegrine, W. Bigl, J. Quarto, T. Rogers (MSCA), A. Holinko, J. Scotttron

REGRETS: M. Thatcher

- I. **Call to Order:** Chair T. Quinn called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM.
- II. **Appointment of Recording Secretary:** K. Grunwald agreed to take minutes for the meeting.
- III. **Acceptance of Minutes:** The minutes of the **December 14** meeting with the correction in the spelling of Emile Poirier's name and the addition of Carol Phillips' name as being present.
- IV. **Correspondence** – Chair and Staff: none.
- V. **New Business**
 - A. **Long-Range Plan Review:** K. Grunwald distributed copies of the long-range plan for 2007-2010. C. Pellegrine feels that there is still much work that needs to be done in this plan. T. Quinn felt that the plan provides general direction, but K. Grunwald pointed out that there are specific action steps to address in each area. J. Quarto addressed the issue of supporting volunteer training to provide telephone reassurance, and questioned whether or not there is a need for this. C. Phillips believes that the need was not justified. How is a service like this publicized and promoted, and how does this tie back into other areas of the plan? Some questions re: what the role of the COA is in implementing this plan. The role of the COA is to recommend and advise, but not to actually implement the plan. J. Quarto questioned whether or not a service like telephone reassurance is happening within the senior residential communities (Jensen's, Glen Ridge, etc.), which it appears that it is. T. Quinn raised the question of how to publicize these services. C. Pellegrine reminded the group of the work that she and Mary Thatcher did on information dissemination and promotion, including using Sparks. T. Rogers clarified that Sparks is a communication of the Association, and has previously been edited by the Coordinator. K. Grunwald pointed out that the implementation of the Triad program should be included in the section on Safety & Security, and T. Quinn mentioned seeking the support of the Town Council for this. C. Phillips pointed out that the issue of safety is especially critical for seniors who are living alone outside of the senior residential communities. **K. Grunwald encouraged members to**

review the plan and come to the February meeting with specific additions and recommendations.

B. "Other": none.

VI. Optional Reports on Services/Needs of Town Aging Populations

A. Health Care Services

Wellness Center and Wellness Program – Kevin Grunwald reported that an interview panel has been developed for the Senior Social Work position and interviews will be starting shortly.

B. Social, Recreational and Educational

Senior Center – Marilyn Gerling introduced herself as the part-time interim Coordinator. She said that she is interested in working to bring factions together to make the Senior Center a positive place to attend.

Senior Center Assoc. – Tom Rogers reported that this has been a difficult time at the Senior Center and he thanked people for their assistance. The Association's Executive Board is scheduled to vote to recommend adoption of changes to the bylaws at their meeting this Wednesday.

C. Housing

Assisted Living Advisory Committee: K. Grunwald reported that Masonicare has renewed their option to purchase the Warren property through 2011.

Wrights Way: J. Adamcik reminded members that they've been promised a bus shelter. W. Bigl said that it is on the agenda to follow-up in the Spring.

Juniper Hill: no report.

Jensen's Park: Emile Poirier will be representing Jensen's.

Glen Ridge: no report.

D. Related Town and Regional Organizations such as:

Advisory Committee on the Needs of Persons with Disabilities:

Members will be invited to attend the next meeting of the COA.

VII. Old Business

A. Long Range Plan for 2007- 2010: discussed in new business.

B. Sub-Committee Report: New Senior Center- no discussion.

C. Triad: no discussion.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:15. Next meeting: **Monday, February 8, 2010** at 9:30 AM at the Senior Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Grunwald